

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status Of The Claims

Prior to entry of this response, claims 18, 20-24 and 30-40 were pending in the application. An office action mailed April 23, 2007 restricted the claims into two groups. Group I (claims 18, 20-24 and 30-37) and Group II (claims 38-40). This response cancels claims 34-36 without prejudice or disclaimer and adds new claims 41-49. The Applicants reserve the right to re-assert the canceled claims in this application or another application. Hence, after entry of this response, claims 18, 20-24, 30-33 and 37-49 stand pending for examination.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed April 23, 2007, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, which includes claims 38-40.

Claim Amendments

Claims 41-49 have been added. Claim 41 depends from claim 38, and claim 42 depends from claim 41. Support for these claims can be found, inter alia, in the portions of the specification supporting claim 18. Claims 43-45 each depend from claim 38. Support for these claims can be found, inter alia, in the portions of the specification supporting claims 21-23, respectively.

New claims 47-49 recite a system, a software program, and a system, respectively, and they each correspond to the method of claim 38. Claims 34-36, which corresponded to claim 18, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in the interest of avoiding excess claim fees. In the event claim 18 is rejoined later in prosecution, the applicants reserve the right to re-add claims 34-36 (or similar claims) to the application.

Appl. No. 10/042,658

PATENT

Dated: May 23, 2007

Response to Restriction Requirement of April 23, 2007

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Dated: May 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

/Chad E. King/
Chad E. King
Reg. No. 44,187

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000 (Denver office)
Fax: 303-571-4321 (Denver office)

CEK:sbm

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